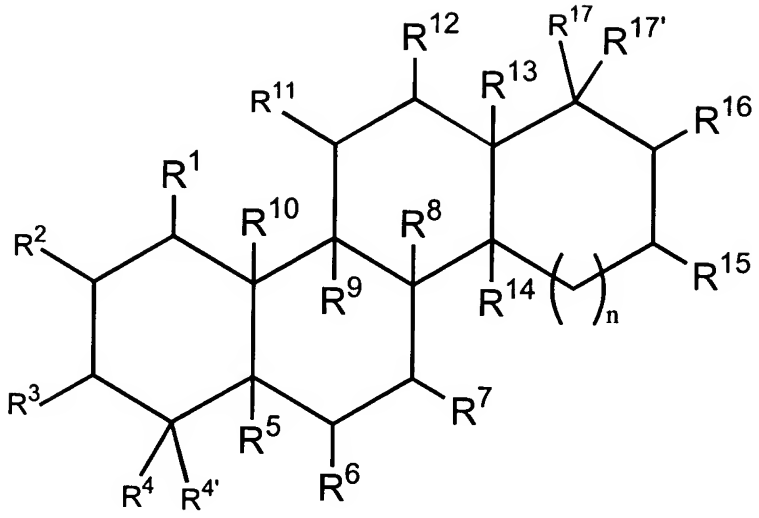
1. A compound of the following formula:



wherein

R^3 is hydrogen, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl that is optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -O-SO_2-, -SO_2-O-, -O-SO_3-, -SO_3-O-, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or –O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^1, R^2, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl that is optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -O-SO_2-, -SO_2-O-, -O-SO_3-, -SO_3-O-, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or –O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or amino;

R^{17} is -X-Y-Z, in which X is a bond, or alkyl or alkenyl, optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, or -S-, and further optionally forming a cyclic moiety with R^{16} and the 2 ring carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are bonded; Y is -CO-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -O-SO_2-, -SO_2-O-, -O-SO_3-, -SO_3-O-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, -N(alkyl)-CO-, or a bond; and Z is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl,

cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio; or is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of an amino acid, and B being hydrogen, $-NR^aR^b$, or $-COOR^c$ wherein each of R^a, R^b, and R^c, independently, is hydrogen or alkyl; and

n is 0, 1, or 2;

provided that when Z is substituted with carboxyl or alkyloxycarbonyl, Y is a bond and either X or Z contains at least one double bond, and that when Y is a bond, either X is -NH-alkyl-, -NH-alkenyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkenyl-, -O-alkyl-, -O-alkenyl-, -S-alkyl-, or -S-alkenyl-; or Z is substituted with halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl, or is alkenyl;

or a salt thereof.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein n is 0.

3. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is amino, carboxyl, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl; R^6 is hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl; and each of R^3 and R^6, independently, is in the α-configuration.

4. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^5 is hydrogen and is in the β-configuration.

5. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^3 is oxo; each of R^1, R^2, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl.

6. The compound of claim 5, wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, or oxo; and each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen or hydroxy; or a salt thereof.

7. The compound of claim 6, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

8. The compound of claim 7, wherein Y is -C(=O)-NH- or -NH-C(=O)-; and Z is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of Tyr or Phe, and B being $-NR^aR^b$ or $-COOR^c$

9. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

10. The compound of claim 9, wherein Y is -C(=O)-NH- or -NH-C(=O)-; and Z is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of Tyr or Phe, and B being $-NR^aR^b$ or $-COOR^c$

11. The compound of claim 6, wherein Y is -CO-, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-NH-, -NH-CO-, or a bond.

12. The compound of claim 11, wherein Z is alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, halo, sulfonic acid, carboxyl, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl; or is -CH(A)-B.

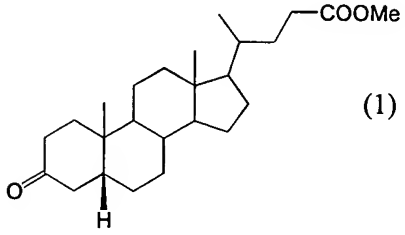
13. The compound of claim 1, wherein Z is alkyl or aryl, each of which being optionally substituted with hydroxy; or is -CH(A)-B with A being an amino acid side chain having an aromatic moiety, and B being $-NR^aR^b$, or $-COOR^c$.

14. The compound of claim 1, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 6-20 chain atoms.

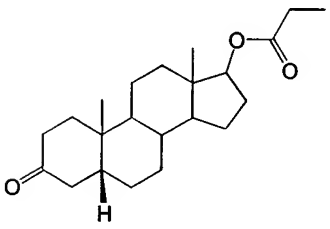
15. The compound of claim 14, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 8-16 chain atoms.

16. The compound of claim 1, wherein X is $-CH(CH_3)-CH_2-$, Y is a bond, and Z is $-CH_2-CH=C(R')(CH_3)$ with R' being hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio.

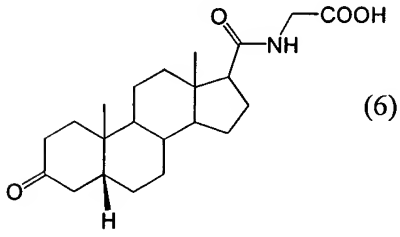
17. The compound of claim 1, wherein said compound is:



(1)

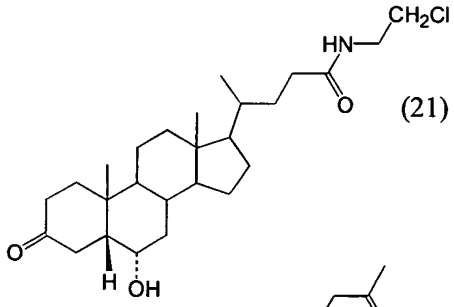


(5)

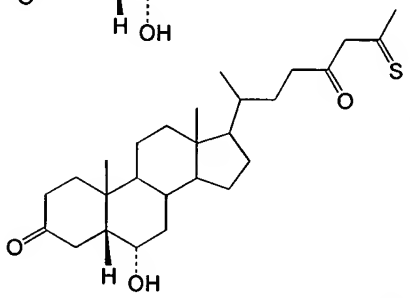


(6)

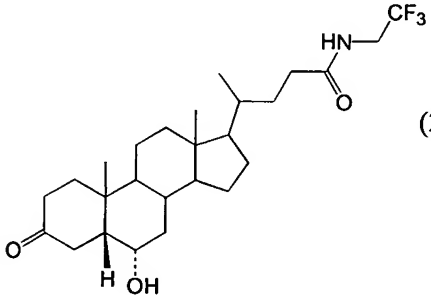
or



(21)

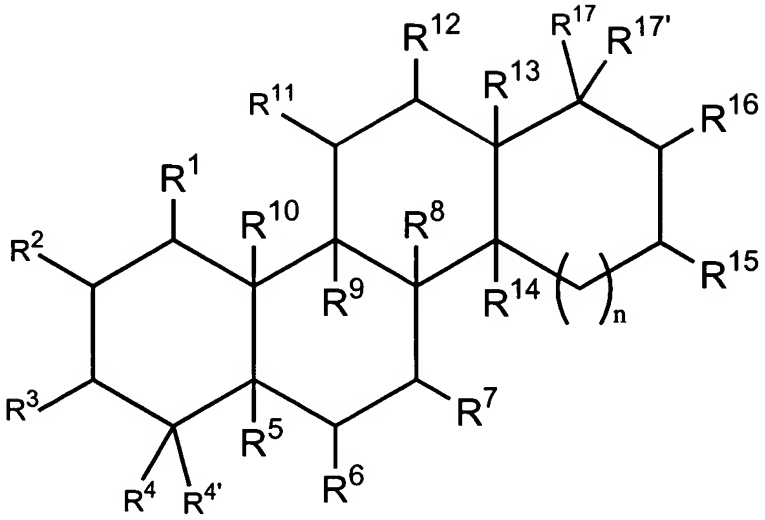


(22)



(23)

18. A compound of the following formula:



wherein

each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl that is optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or -O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or amino;

R^{17} is -X-Y-Z, in which X is a bond, or alkyl or alkenyl, optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, or -S-, and further optionally forming a cyclic moiety with R^{16} and the 2 ring carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are bonded; Y is -CO-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, -N(alkyl)-CO-, or a bond; and Z is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl,

alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio; or is -CH(A)-B with A being an amino acid side chain containing an aromatic moiety, and B being hydrogen, $-NR^aR^b$, or $-COOR^c$ wherein each of R^a, R^b, and R^c, independently, is hydrogen or alkyl; and

n is 0, 1, or 2;

provided that when Z is substituted with carboxyl or alkyloxycarbonyl, Y is a bond and either X or Z contains at least one double bond, and that when Y is a bond, either X is -NH-alkyl-, -NH-alkenyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkenyl-, -O-alkyl-, -O-alkenyl-, -S-alkyl-, or -S-alkenyl-; or Z is substituted with halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl, or is alkenyl;

or a salt thereof.

19. The compound of claim 18, wherein n is 0.

20. The compound of claim 18, wherein each of R^3 and R^6, independently, is hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl, and is in the α-configuration.

21. The compound of claim 18, wherein R^5 is hydrogen and is in the β-configuration.

22. The compound of claim 18, wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl.

23. The compound of claim 22, wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, or oxo; and each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen or hydroxy.

24. The compound of claim 23, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

25. The compound of claim 24, wherein Y is -C(=O)-NH- or -NH-C(=O)-; and Z is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of Tyr or Phe, and B being $-NR^aR^b$ or $-COOR^c$

26. The compound of claim 18, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

27. The compound of claim 26, wherein Y is -C(=O)-NH- or -NH-C(=O)-; and Z is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of Tyr or Phe, and B being $-NR^aR^b$ or $-COOR^c$

28. The compound of claim 18, wherein Y is -CO-, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-NH-, -NH-CO-, or a bond.

29. The compound of claim 28, wherein Z is alkyl, alkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, halo, sulfonic acid, carboxyl, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl; or is -CH(A)-B.

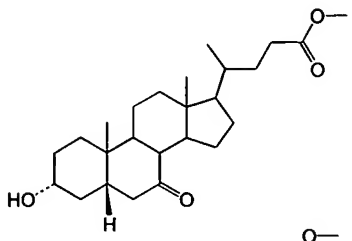
30. The compound of claim 18, wherein Z is alkyl or aryl, each of which being optionally substituted with hydroxy; or is -CH(A)-B with A being an amino acid side chain having an aromatic moiety, and B being $-NR^aR^b$, or $-COOR^c$.

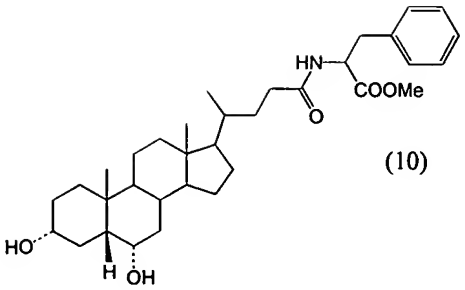
31. The compound of claim 18, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 6-20 chain atoms.

32. The compound of claim 31, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 8-16 chain atoms.

33. The compound of claim 18, wherein X is $-CH(CH_3)-CH_2-$, Y is a bond, and Z is $-CH_2-CH=C(R')(CH_3)$ with R' being hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio.

34. The compound of claim 18, wherein said compound is:


(2)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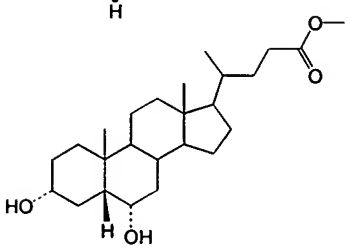
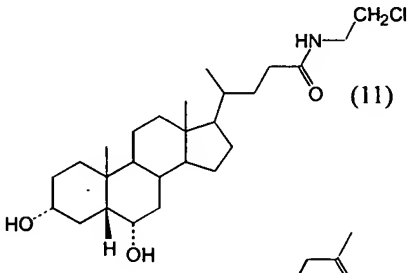
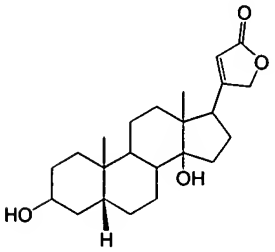
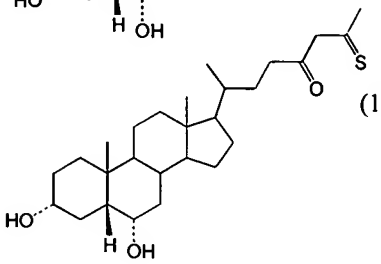
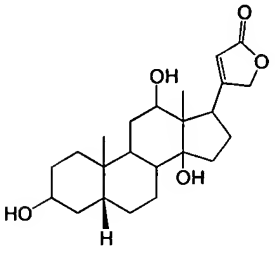
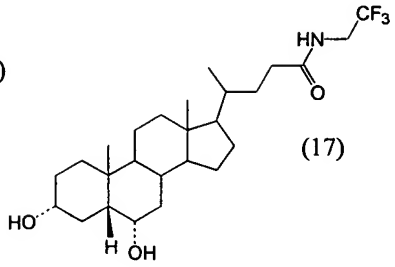

(3)

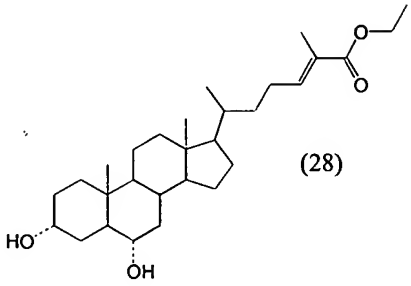

(11)

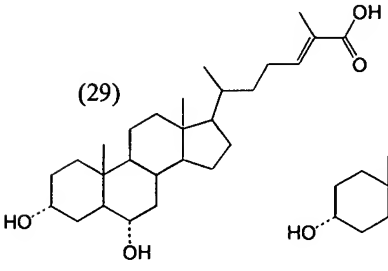

(8)


(12)


(9)


(17)


(28)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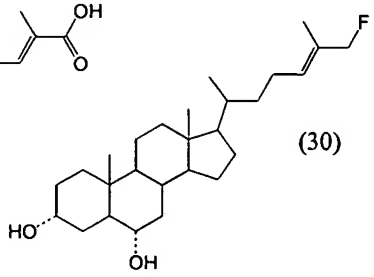
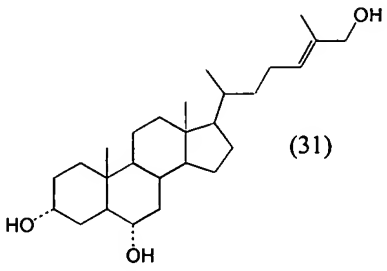
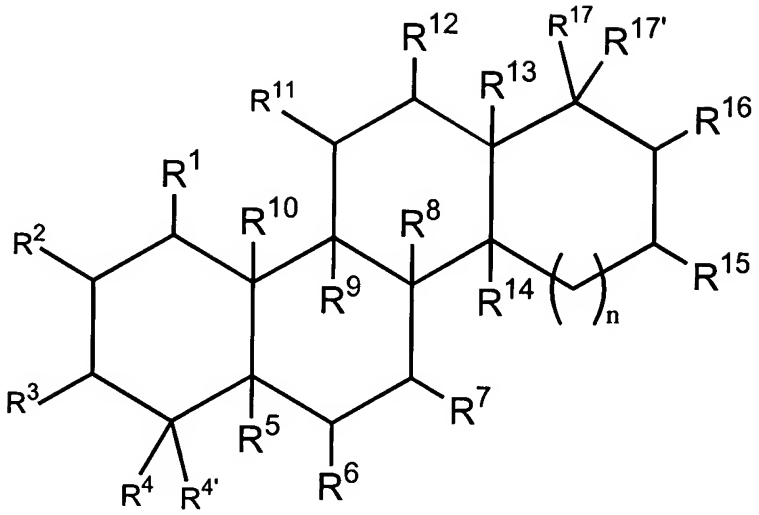

(30)

or


(31)

35. A compound of the following formula:



wherein

each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or -O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or amino;

R^{17} is -X-Y-Z, in which X is a bond, or alkyl or alkenyl, optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, or -S-, and further optionally forming a cyclic moiety with R^{16} and the 2 ring carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are bonded; Y is -CO-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -O-SO_2-, -SO_2-O-, -O-SO_3-, -SO_3-O-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, -N(alkyl)-CO-, or a bond; and Z is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio; or is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of an amino acid, and B being hydrogen, -NR^aR^b, or -$COOR^c$ wherein each of R^a, R^b, and R^c, independently, is hydrogen or alkyl; and

n is 0, 1, or 2;

provided that when Z is substituted with carboxyl or alkyloxycarbonyl, Y is a bond and either X or Z contains at least one double bond, and that when Y is a bond, either X is -NH-alkyl-, -NH-alkenyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkenyl-, -O-alkyl-, -O-alkenyl-, -S-alkyl-, or -S-alkenyl-; or Z is substituted with halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl, or is alkenyl; and

further provided that at least one of R^3 and R^4, R^4 and R^5, R^5 and R^6, R^7 and R^8, R^{12} and R^{13}, and R^{15} and R^{16}, independently, is deleted to form a double bond;

or a salt thereof.

36. The compound of claim 35, wherein at least one of R^3 and R^4, R^4 and R^5, R^{12} and R^{13}, and R^{15} and R^{16}, independently, is deleted to form a double bond.

37. The compound of claim 35, wherein n is 0.

38. The compound of claim 35, wherein R^3 is hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl, and is in the α-configuration.

39. The compound of claim 35, wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl.

40. The compound of claim 39, wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, or oxo; and each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen or hydroxy.

41. The compound of claim 40, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

42. The compound of claim 41, wherein Y is -C(=O)-NH- or -NH-C(=O)-; and Z is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of Tyr or Phe, and B being $-NR^aR^b$ or $-COOR^c$

43. The compound of claim 35, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

44. The compound of claim 35, wherein Y is -CO-, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-NH-, -NH-CO-, or a bond.

45. The compound of claim 35, wherein Z is alkyl or aryl, each of which being optionally substituted with hydroxy; or is -CH(A)-B with A being an amino acid side chain having an aromatic moiety, and B being $-NR^aR^b$, or $-COOR^c$.

46. The compound of claim 35, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 6-20 chain atoms.

47. The compound of claim 46, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 8-16 chain atoms.

48. The compound of claim 35, wherein X is $-CH(CH_3)-CH_2-$, Y is a bond, and Z is $-CH_2-CH=C(R')(CH_3)$ with R' being hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio.

49. The compound of claim 35, wherein Z is alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl.

50. The compound of claim 49, wherein n is 0.

51. The compound of claim 49, wherein R^3 is hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl, and is in the α-configuration.

52. The compound of claim 49, wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl.

53. The compound of claim 52, wherein each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, or oxo; and each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen or hydroxy.

54. The compound of claim 53, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

55. The compound of claim 54, wherein Y is -C(=O)-NH- or -NH-C(=O)-; and Z is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of Tyr or Phe, and B being $-NR^aR^b$ or $-COOR^c$

56. The compound of claim 49, wherein X is a bond or alkyl.

57. The compound of claim 56, wherein Y is -C(=O)-NH- or -NH-C(=O)-; and Z is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of Tyr or Phe, and B being $-NR^aR^b$ or $-COOR^c$

58. The compound of claim 49, wherein Y is -CO-, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-NH-, -NH-CO-, or a bond.

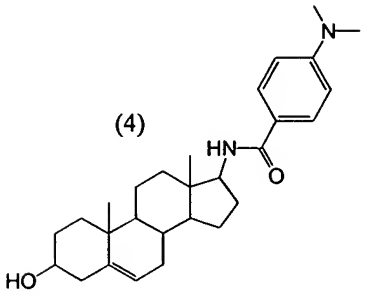
59. The compound of claim 49, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 6-20 chain atoms.

60. The compound of claim 59, wherein R^{17} contains a straight chain having 8-16 chain atoms.

61. The compound of claim 49, wherein X is $-CH(CH_3)-CH_2-$, Y is a bond, and Z is $-CH_2-CH=C(R')(CH_3)$ with R' being hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio.

62. The compound of claim 49, wherein said compound is:

(4)



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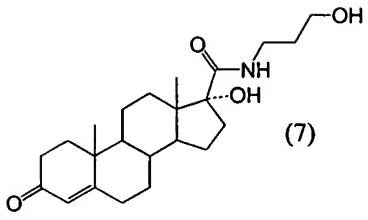

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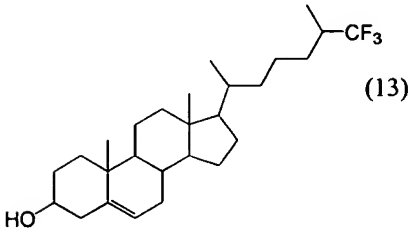

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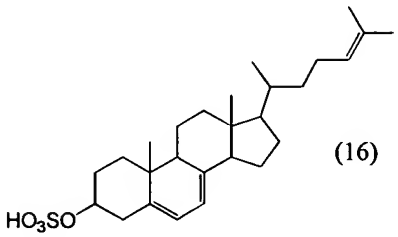

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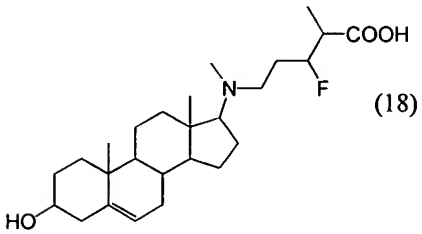

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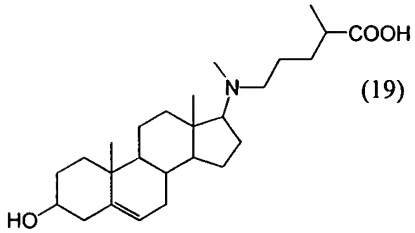

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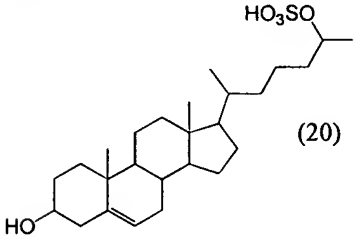

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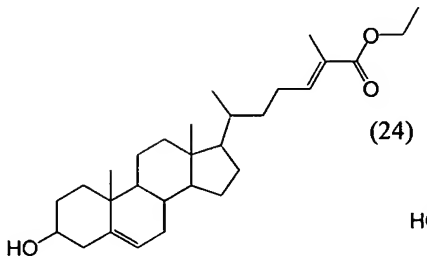

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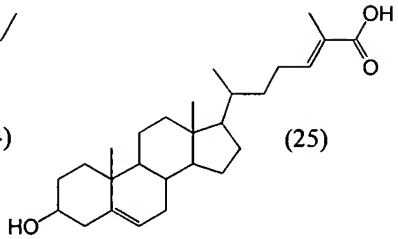

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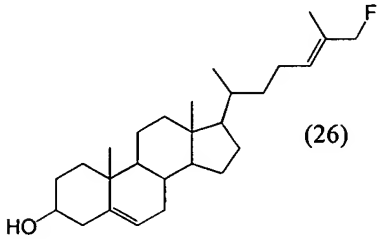
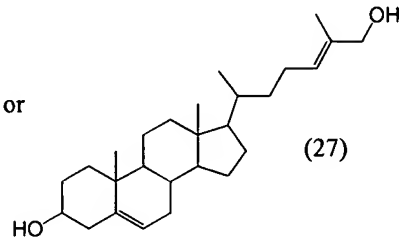
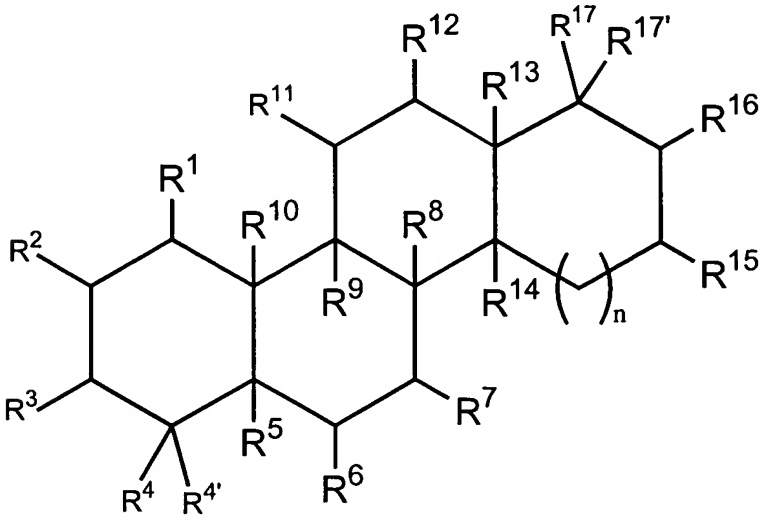


or

(27)



63. A pharmaceutical composition for treating a UR- or a LXR-mediated disorder, said composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective amount of a compound of the following formula:



wherein

R^3 is hydrogen, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl that is optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or –O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^1, R^2, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl that is optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or –O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or amino;

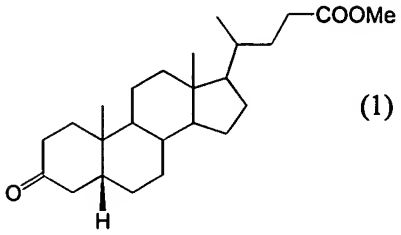
R^{17} is -X-Y-Z, in which X is a bond, or alkyl or alkenyl, optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, or -S-, and further optionally forming a cyclic moiety with R^{16} and the 2 ring carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are bonded; Y is -CO-, -SO-, -SO_2-, -O-SO_2-, -SO_2-O-, -O-SO_3-, -SO_3-O-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, -N(alkyl)-CO-, or a bond; and Z is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio; or is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of an amino acid, and B being hydrogen, -NR^aR^b, or -$COOR^c$ wherein each of R^a, R^b, and R^c, independently, is hydrogen or alkyl; and

n is 0, 1, or 2;

provided that when Z is substituted with carboxyl or alkyloxycarbonyl, Y is a bond and either X or Z contains at least one double bond, and that when Y is a bond, either X is -NH-alkyl-, -NH-alkenyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkenyl-, -O-alkyl-, -O-alkenyl-, -S-alkyl-, or -S-alkenyl-; or Z is substituted with halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl, or is alkenyl;

or a salt thereof.

64. The composition of claim 63, wherein said compound is:



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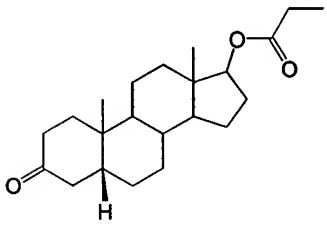

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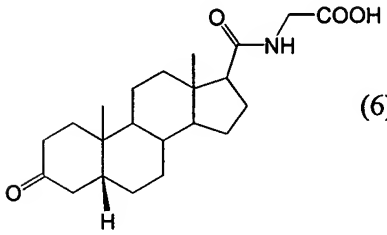
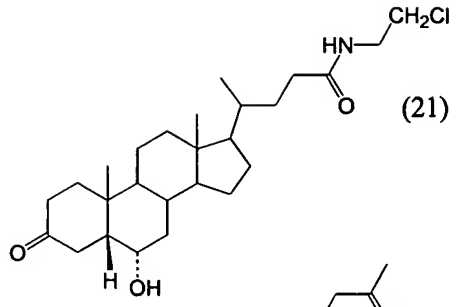


(6)

or



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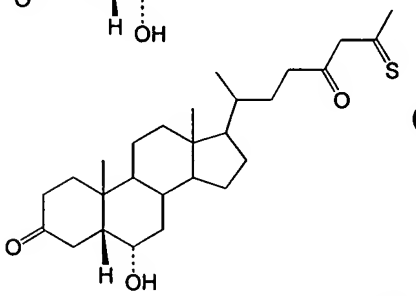

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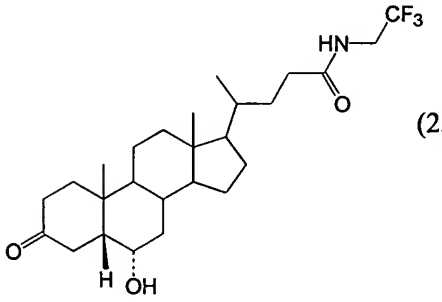
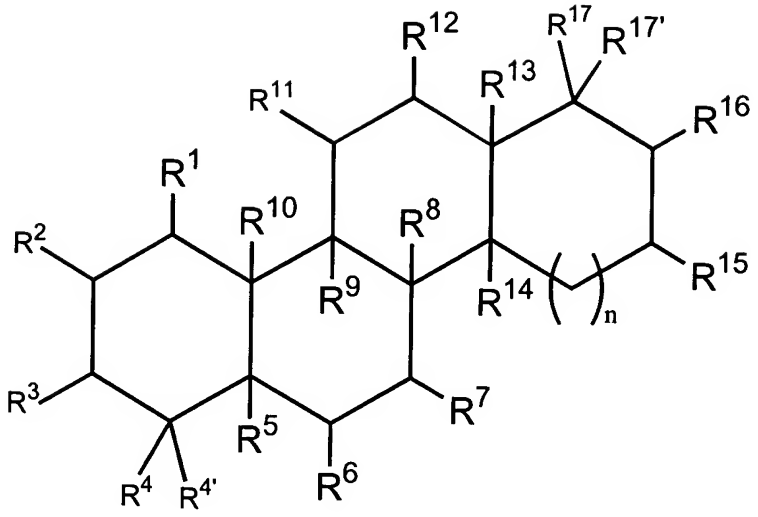


(23)

65. A pharmaceutical composition for treating a UR- or a LXR-mediated disorder, said composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective amount of a compound of the following formula:



wherein

each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl that is optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or -O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or amino;

R^{17} is -X-Y-Z, in which X is a bond, or alkyl or alkenyl, optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, or -S-, and further optionally forming a cyclic moiety with R^{16} and the 2 ring carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are bonded; Y is -CO-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, -N(alkyl)-CO-, or a bond; and Z is alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio; or is -CH(A)-B with A being an

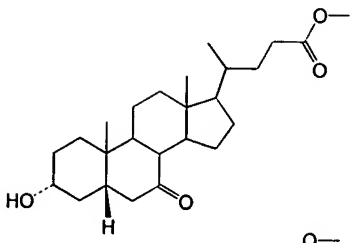
amino acid side chain containing an aromatic moiety, and B being hydrogen, -NR^aR^b, or -$COOR^c$ wherein each of R^a, R^b, and R^c, independently, is hydrogen or alkyl; and

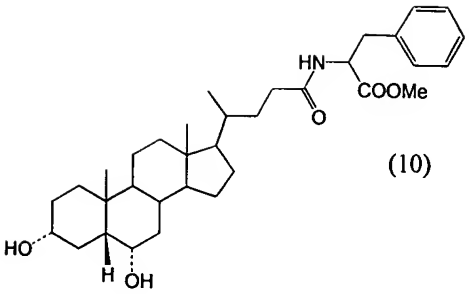
n is 0, 1, or 2;

provided that when Z is substituted with carboxyl or alkyloxycarbonyl, Y is a bond and either X or Z contains at least one double bond, and that when Y is a bond, either X is -NH-alkyl-, -NH-alkenyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkenyl-, -O-alkyl-, -O-alkenyl-, -S-alkyl-, or -S-alkenyl-; or Z is substituted with halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl, or is alkenyl;

or a salt thereof.

66. The composition of claim 65, wherein said compound is:


(2)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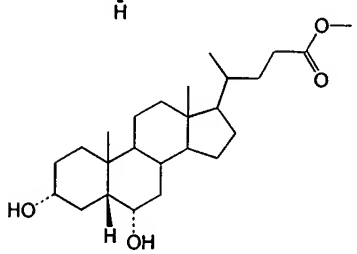
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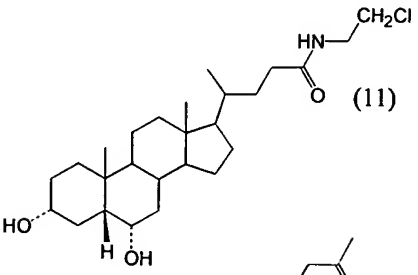
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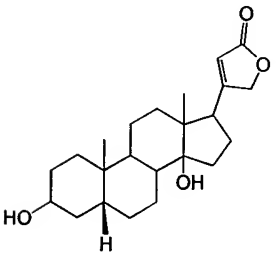
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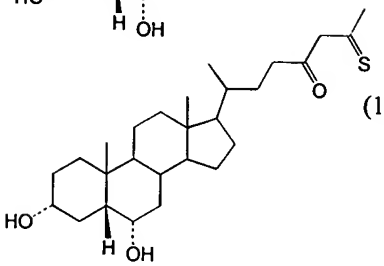
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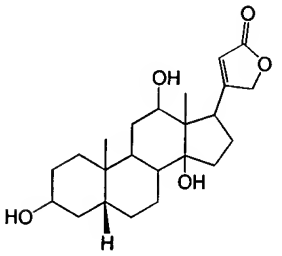
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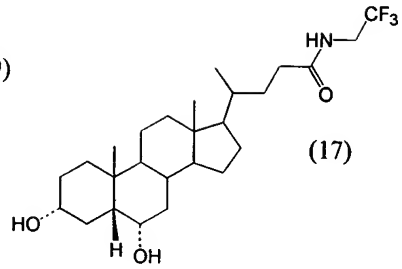
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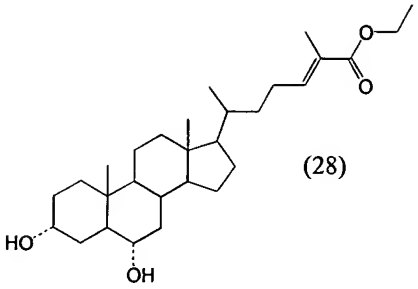
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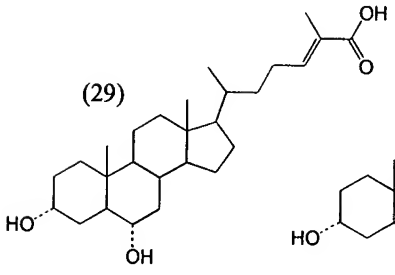
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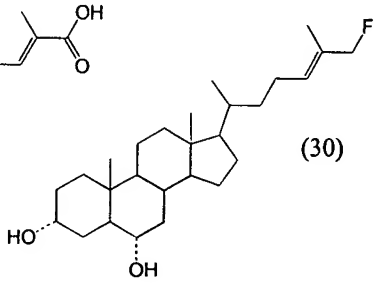
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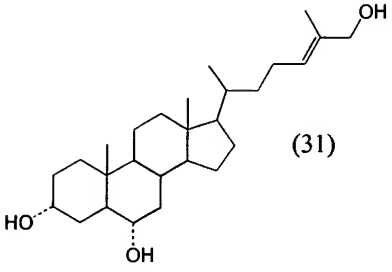
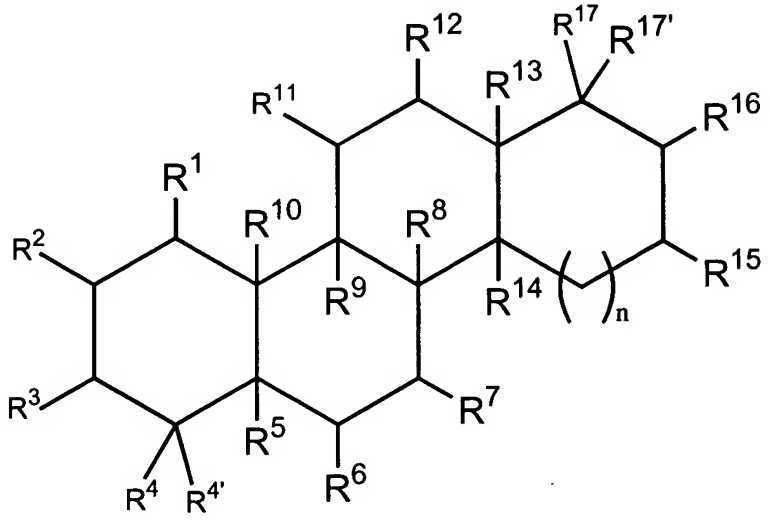

(31)

2

67. A pharmaceutical composition for treating a UR- or a LXR-mediated disorder, said composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an effective amount of a compound of the following formula:



wherein

each of R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, $R^{4'}$, R^6, R^7, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{15}, R^{16}, and $R^{17'}$, independently, is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, carboxyl, oxo, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, or alkyl optionally inserted with -NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, -S-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, $-O-SO_2-$, $-SO_2-O-$, $-O-SO_3-$, $-SO_3-O-$, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, or -N(alkyl)-CO-, and further optionally substituted with hydroxy, halo, amino, carboxyl, sulfonic acid, or -O-sulfonic acid;

each of R^5, R^8, R^9, R^{10}, R^{13}, and R^{14}, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, haloalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or amino;

R^{17} is -X-Y-Z, in which X is a bond, or alkyl or alkenyl, optionally inserted with

-NH-, -N(alkyl)-, -O-, or -S-, and further optionally forming a cyclic moiety with R^{16} and the 2 ring carbon atoms to which R^{16} and R^{17} are bonded; Y is -CO-, -SO-, $-SO_2-$, -O-SO_2-, $-SO_2$-O-, -O-SO_3-, $-SO_3$-O-, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CO-NH-, -CO-N(alkyl)-, -NH-CO-, -N(alkyl)-CO-, or a bond; and Z is hydrogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl, and is optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkoxy, amino, halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, carboxyl, oxo, alkyloxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylcarbonyl, alkylsulfinyl, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylthio; or is -CH(A)-B with A being a side chain of an amino acid, and B being hydrogen, $-NR^aR^b$, or $-COOR^c$ wherein each of R^a, R^b, and R^c, independently, is hydrogen or alkyl; and

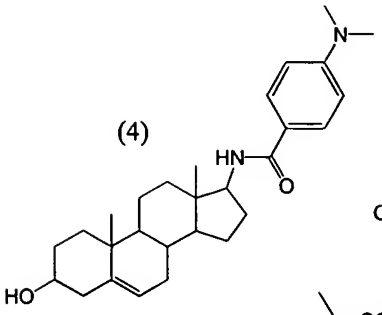
n is 0, 1, or 2;

provided that when Z is substituted with carboxyl or alkyloxycarbonyl, Y is a bond and either X or Z contains at least one double bond, and that when Y is a bond, either X is -NH-alkyl-, -NH-alkenyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkyl-, -N(alkyl)-alkenyl-, -O-alkyl-, -O-alkenyl-, -S-alkyl-, or -S-alkenyl-; or Z is substituted with halo, sulfonic acid, -O-sulfonic acid, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl, or is alkenyl; and further provided that at least one of R^3 and R^4, R^4 and R^5, R^5 and R^6, R^7 and R^8, R^{12} and R^{13}, and R^{15} and R^{16}, independently, is deleted to form a double bond;

or a salt thereof.

68. The composition of claim 67, wherein said compound is:

(4)



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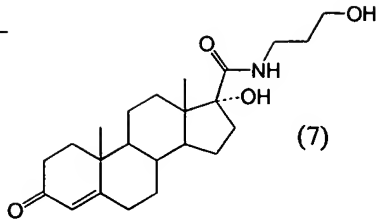

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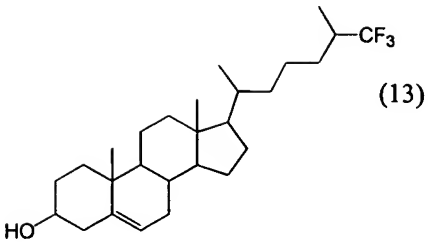

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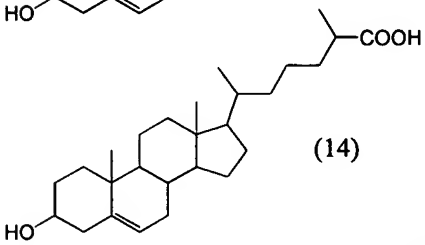

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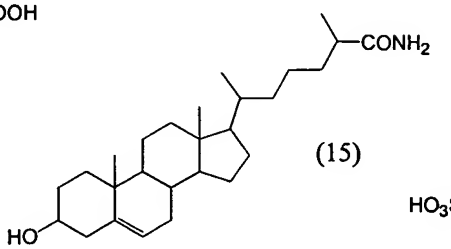

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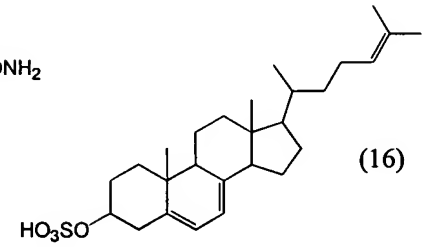

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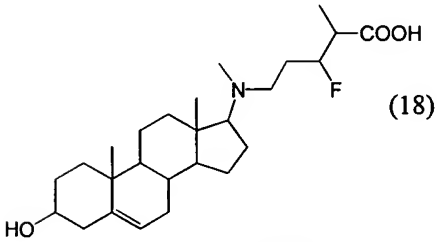

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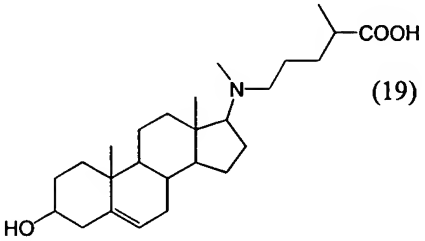

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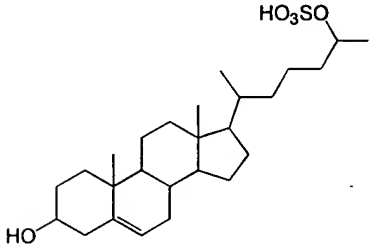

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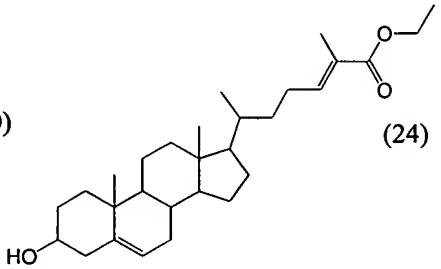

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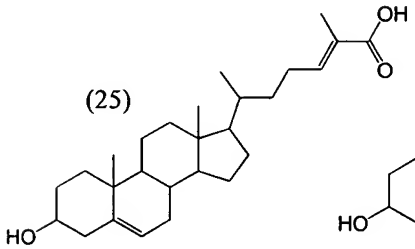

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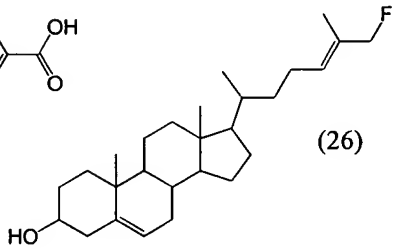

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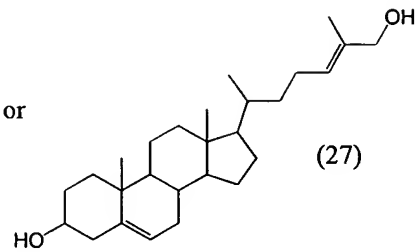
(27)



69.